

Name: _____

Class Period: _____

“Why Young People Join Gangs”

Part I. Read the articles in order to answer the following questions:

1. According to the first paragraph, what are 2 major things that parents are (should be) responsible for?
2. Why is it important for parents to let children suffer the consequences for illegal behavior?

Do you agree with this? Why or why not?

Do you think Charlie would agree with this? Why or why not?

3. According to the 2nd paragraph, what are some signals that parents should look out for that may indicate that his/her child is interested in a gang, or has already joined one??
4. What can help decrease the strength a gang has in the neighborhood?

How does this relate to the Bailey brothers? Do they have/do this? Explain.

5. Do you agree with the statement that “Children, especially teens, like to take risks”? Why or why not? Explain using your personal experience or point of view.

What examples from our book (Miracle’s Boys) confirm that this statement is true.

6. According to the 3rd paragraph, what is one of the biggest appeals for children to join a gang?

How might this relate to our book? (Make a prediction)

7. Why is it important for children to be given responsibilities around the house and to seek jobs in the community too?
8. The last paragraph suggests that children who do not have a sense of purpose in life may seek gang activities to reinforce their self-esteem. Think about how this might be true for the 3 Bailey brothers in our book. Which of them is most susceptible to joining a gang? Explain why using referencing examples from the book that we’ve read so far.

Part II. Read the sections titled, “General Reasons for Gang Membership”, “Personal Reasons for Gang Membership” and “Characteristics of Gangs”. Think about each of the 3 brothers (individually) and note traits that they exhibit in the book that directly relate to what these articles suggest make them susceptible to joining a gang. A couple examples have already been done for you:

According to:	Lafayette	Charlie	Ty’ree
“General Reasons for Gang Membership”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fellowship- tight family structure is lacking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between ages 13-21 Fellowship- tight family structure is lacking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between ages 13-21 Fellowship- tight family structure is lacking
“Personal Reasons for Gang Membership”			
Characteristics of Gangs			

Part III. Read the last page of the article/handout, “Gang Recruitment Tactics”, “Consequences of Gang Involvement” and “Early Warning Signs”.

Create a list of tactics, consequences and signs displayed in our book so far:

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